

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076000

FOLOWING REPEAT ANKARA 2110 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO PEKING HONG
KONG
MAR 21.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2110

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, CH, TU

SUBJECT: CONTACTS WITH PRC AMBASSADOR, WEI YUNG-CHING

1. IN EVENT IT MAY FORM PART OF A MORE GENERAL PATTERN,
EMBASSY WISHES REPORT FOR THE RECORD NATURE OF CONTACTS
WE HAVE HAD WITH CHINESE AMBASSADOR IN ANKARA.

2. SHORTLY AFTER AMBASSADOR'S ARRIVAL LAST SUMMER,
CHINESE AMBASSADOR WEI INDICATED THROUGH A THIRD PARTY
THAT HE WOULD ACCEPT COURTESY CALL ON HIM BY NEW AMBASSADOR.
THIS CALL WAS MADE IN NOVEMBER, AND AMBASSADOR WEI RETURNED
THE CALL IN FEBRUARY 1978, AT WHICH TIME HE NOTED IT WAS
FIRST TIME HE HAD EVER BEEN IN AN AMERICAN EMBASSY. AT
THAT TIME HE INDICATED HIS INTEREST, SHARED BY HIS
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GOVERNMENT, IN DEVELOPING DIALOGUE ON SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS
AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO CONTINUE
DISCUSSIONS PERIODICALLY IN FUTURE.

3. IN ADDITION US AND CHINESE AMBASSADORS HAVE MET
FREQUENTLY AT SOCIAL OCCASIONS. AT ALL TIMES
AMBASSADOR WEI HAS BEEN OPEN AND CORDIAL, AS HAS HIS

WIFE, A MEDICAL DOCTOR.

4. SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS DISCUSSED INVARIABLY RELATE TO US-TURKISH RELATIONS AND TURKISH ATTITUDES TOWARD NATO AND SOVIETS. AMBASSADOR WEI, WHO SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH AND WHO HAS HELD PREVIOUS POSTS IN NEW DELHI, BOMBAY, CONAKRY, MAURITANIA, AND ACCRA USUALLY STRIKES THE SAME THEME: U.S. EMBARGO IS A MISTAKE WHICH SHOULD BE RECTIFIED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE; TURKEY SHOULD RECOGNIZE ITS "REAL ENEMY" WHICH IS THE SOVIET UNION, NOT GREECE; TURKISH CONNECTIONS WITH NATO REMAIN IMPORTANT; TURKS SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL IN EXPANDING THEIR ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION. HE IS ALWAYS INTERESTED IN PROBING IN EACH OF THESE AREAS, PARTICULARLY PROSPECTS FOR LIFTING EMBARGO. CONVERSATION, HOWEVER, IS SELDOM DEEPLY SUBSTANTIVE.

5. AMBASSADOR WEI HAS NEVER INVITED AMBASSADOR TO ANY FUNCTIONS AT CHINESE EMBASSY NOR RESPONDED IN THE ONE CASE AN INVITATION WAS ISSUED TO HIM AND HIS WIFE FOR A FUNCTION AT US EMBASSY RESIDENCE (SHOWING OF TV FILM OF "ROOTS").
SPIERS UNQUOTE VANCE

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